U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of TERRI L. NICHOLS <u>and</u> U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, POST OFFICE, Mount Airy, NC

Docket No. 99-2304; Submitted on the Record; Issued September 14, 2000

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, PRISCILLA ANNE SCHWAB, VALERIE D. EVANS-HARRELL

The issue is whether appellant sustained a recurrence of disability on or about July 11, 1995, causally related to her January 22, 1991 employment injury.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, appellant's contentions on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated March 25, 1999 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case, and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.¹

The March 25, 1999 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC September 14, 2000

> Willie T.C. Thomas Member

Priscilla Anne Schwab Alternate Member

Valerie D. Evans-Harrell Alternate Member

¹ Where appellant claims a recurrence of disability due to an accepted employment-related injury, he has the burden of establishing by the weight of reliable, probative and substantial evidence that the recurrence of disability is causally related to the original injury. 20 C.F.R. § 10.104(b); *Robert H. St. Onge*, 43 ECAB 1169 (1992).